

**Senate File 293 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 293  
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE  
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1066)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the licensure of the practice of  
2 naturopathic medicine.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 147.1, subsections 3 and 6, Code 2011,  
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 3. "*Licensed*" or "*certified*", when applied to a physician  
4 and surgeon, podiatric physician, osteopathic physician  
5 and surgeon, naturopathic physician, physician assistant,  
6 psychologist, chiropractor, nurse, dentist, dental hygienist,  
7 dental assistant, optometrist, speech pathologist, audiologist,  
8 pharmacist, physical therapist, physical therapist assistant,  
9 occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant,  
10 respiratory care practitioner, practitioner of cosmetology  
11 arts and sciences, practitioner of barbering, funeral  
12 director, dietitian, marital and family therapist, mental  
13 health counselor, social worker, massage therapist, athletic  
14 trainer, acupuncturist, nursing home administrator, hearing aid  
15 dispenser, or sign language interpreter or transliterator means  
16 a person licensed under this subtitle.

17 6. "*Profession*" means medicine and surgery, podiatry,  
18 osteopathic medicine and surgery, naturopathic medicine,  
19 practice as a physician assistant, psychology, chiropractic,  
20 nursing, dentistry, dental hygiene, dental assisting,  
21 optometry, speech pathology, audiology, pharmacy, physical  
22 therapy, physical therapist assisting, occupational therapy,  
23 occupational therapy assisting, respiratory care, cosmetology  
24 arts and sciences, barbering, mortuary science, marital  
25 and family therapy, mental health counseling, social work,  
26 dietetics, massage therapy, athletic training, acupuncture,  
27 nursing home administration, hearing aid dispensing, or sign  
28 language interpreting or transliterating.

29 Sec. 2. Section 147.2, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
30 to read as follows:

31 1. A person shall not engage in the practice of medicine  
32 and surgery, podiatry, osteopathic medicine and surgery,  
33 naturopathic medicine, psychology, chiropractic, physical  
34 therapy, physical therapist assisting, nursing, dentistry,  
35 dental hygiene, dental assisting, optometry, speech pathology,

1 audiology, occupational therapy, occupational therapy  
2 assisting, respiratory care, pharmacy, cosmetology arts and  
3 sciences, barbering, social work, dietetics, marital and  
4 family therapy or mental health counseling, massage therapy,  
5 mortuary science, athletic training, acupuncture, nursing  
6 home administration, hearing aid dispensing, or sign language  
7 interpreting or transliterating, or shall not practice as a  
8 physician assistant, unless the person has obtained a license  
9 for that purpose from the board for the profession.

10 Sec. 3. Section 147.13, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 1. For medicine and surgery, osteopathic medicine and  
13 surgery, ~~and~~ acupuncture, and naturopathic medicine, the board  
14 of medicine.

15 Sec. 4. Section 147.74, Code 2011, is amended by adding the  
16 following new subsection:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 22A. A naturopathic physician licensed  
18 under chapter 148F may use the words "naturopathic physician",  
19 "naturopathic doctor", "doctor of naturopathy", "naturopathic  
20 medical doctor", "doctor of naturopathic medicine",  
21 "naturopath" or the initials "N.D." or "N.M.D." after the  
22 person's name.

23 Sec. 5. Section 147.107, Code 2011, is amended by adding the  
24 following new subsection:

25 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. Notwithstanding provisions of this  
26 section to the contrary, a licensed naturopathic physician may  
27 prescribe all substances and devices consistent within the  
28 level of training of the naturopathic physician unless added  
29 to the exclusionary naturopathic formulary by the naturopathic  
30 advisory council.

31 Sec. 6. Section 148E.3, subsection 1, Code 2011, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 1. A person otherwise licensed to practice medicine and  
34 surgery, osteopathic medicine and surgery, naturopathic  
35 medicine, chiropractic, podiatry, or dentistry who is

1 exclusively engaged in the practice of the person's profession.

2 Sec. 7. NEW SECTION. 148F.1 Definitions.

3 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
4 requires:

5 1. "*Approved naturopathic medical program*" means any of the  
6 following:

7 a. A naturopathic medical education program in the  
8 United States providing the degree of doctor of naturopathy  
9 or doctor of naturopathic medicine. Such program shall  
10 offer graduate-level, full-time didactic and supervised  
11 clinical training and shall be accredited, or shall have  
12 achieved candidacy status for accreditation by the council  
13 on naturopathic medical education or by an equivalent  
14 federally recognized accrediting body for naturopathic medical  
15 programs also recognized by the board. Additionally, the  
16 program shall be an institution, or part of an institution of  
17 higher education that is either accredited or is a candidate  
18 for accreditation by a regional or national institutional  
19 accrediting agency recognized by the United States secretary  
20 of education.

21 b. A degree-granting college or university that, prior  
22 to the existence of the council on naturopathic medicinal  
23 education, offered a full-time, structured curriculum in  
24 basic sciences and supervised patient care comprising a  
25 doctoral naturopathic medical education; such curriculum, as  
26 a prerequisite to graduation, consisted of not less than one  
27 hundred thirty-two weeks of study and required completion  
28 within a period of not less than thirty-five months; such  
29 college or university of naturopathic medicine shall have been  
30 reputable and in good standing in the judgment of the board,  
31 and if still in existence, shall have current programmatic  
32 accreditation by the council on naturopathic medical education  
33 or an equivalent federally recognized accrediting agency.

34 c. A diploma-granting, degree-equivalent college or  
35 university in Canada, that prior to accreditation by the

1 council on naturopathic medical education, had provincial  
2 approval for participation in government-funded student aid  
3 programs, and that offered a full-time, structured curriculum  
4 in basic sciences and supervised patient care comprising a  
5 doctoral naturopathic medical education; such curriculum, as  
6 a prerequisite to graduation, consisted of not less than one  
7 hundred thirty-two weeks of study and required completion  
8 within a period of not less than thirty-five months; such  
9 college or university of liberal arts and naturopathic medicine  
10 shall have been reputable and in good standing in the judgment  
11 of the board and, if still in existence, shall have current  
12 programmatic accreditation by the council of naturopathic  
13 medical education or an equivalent federally recognized  
14 accrediting agency. Additionally, the college or university  
15 currently shall have provincial approval for participation in  
16 government-funded student aid programs.

17 *d.* A diploma-granting, degree-equivalent college or  
18 university in Canada that offers graduate-level, full-time  
19 didactic and supervised clinical training and is accredited, or  
20 has achieved candidacy status for accreditation by the council  
21 on naturopathic medical education or an equivalent federally  
22 recognized accrediting body for naturopathic medical programs  
23 also recognized by the board; and the college or university  
24 has provincial approval for participation in government-funded  
25 student aid.

26 2. "*Board*" means the board of medicine established in  
27 section 147.13.

28 3. "*Director*" means the executive director of the board of  
29 medicine.

30 4. "*Exclusionary naturopathic formulary*" means the  
31 exclusionary list of medicines, nonprescription and  
32 prescription, which naturopathic physicians may not use in the  
33 practice of their profession, as determined by the naturopathic  
34 advisory council.

35 5. "*Minor office procedures*" means methods for the repair

1 and care incidental to superficial lacerations and abrasions,  
2 superficial lesions, and the removal of foreign bodies located  
3 in the superficial tissues.

4 6. "*Naturopathic advisory council*" means the naturopathic  
5 advisory council as established under this chapter.

6 7. "*Naturopathic medicine*" means a system of primary health  
7 care for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of human  
8 health conditions, injury, and disease, and the promotion or  
9 restoration of health. "*Naturopathic medicine*" includes the use  
10 of physiological, psychological, or mechanical methods, and the  
11 use of natural medicines, prescription or legend drugs, foods,  
12 herbs, or other natural remedies.

13 8. "*Naturopathic physician*" means a practitioner of  
14 naturopathic medicine who has been properly licensed for that  
15 purpose by the board of medicine under this chapter, who may  
16 diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases using a system  
17 of practice that is based on the natural healing capacity  
18 of individuals, and may use physiological, psychological,  
19 or mechanical methods, and may use natural medicines,  
20 prescription, or legend drugs, foods, herbs, or other natural  
21 remedies.

22 9. "*Prescription drug*" means any drug described in section  
23 503(b) of the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. §  
24 353, if its label is required to bear the symbol "RX only".

25 Sec. 8. NEW SECTION. 148F.2 **Licensure — naturopathic**  
26 **medicine.**

27 1. *Qualifications for licensure.* An applicant for a license  
28 to practice naturopathic medicine shall be granted a license  
29 by the board if the applicant satisfies all of the following  
30 requirements:

31 a. Submits an application for licensure designed and  
32 approved by the naturopathic advisory council.

33 b. Pays an application fee established by the board.

34 c. Has graduated from an approved naturopathic medical  
35 program.

1     *d.* Has passed a competency-based national naturopathic  
2 licensing examination administered by the north American board  
3 of naturopathic examiners or successor agency, that has been  
4 nationally recognized to administer a naturopathic examination  
5 representing federal standards of education and training. For  
6 applicants who completed an approved naturopathic medical  
7 program located in Canada, eligibility for licensure may be  
8 granted with evidence of successful passage of a Canadian  
9 provincial competency examination.

10    *e.* Provides evidence that the applicant is of good ethical  
11 and professional reputation. An applicant shall not have had  
12 a license to practice naturopathic medicine or other health  
13 care license registration or certificate refused, revoked,  
14 or suspended by this state or any other jurisdiction for  
15 reasons that relate to the applicant's ability to skillfully  
16 and safely practice naturopathic medicine unless that license,  
17 registration, or certification has been restored to good  
18 standing.

19    *f.* Provides evidence that the applicant is physically and  
20 mentally capable of safely practicing naturopathic medicine  
21 with or without reasonable accommodation.

22    2. *Term of license.* A license granted pursuant to this  
23 section shall be renewed every two years.

24    Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. 148F.3 Use of title — exceptions.

25    1. A person shall not represent that the person is a  
26 naturopathic physician, a doctor of naturopathic medicine, a  
27 doctor of naturopathy, a naturopath, or as being otherwise  
28 authorized to practice naturopathic medicine in this state, or  
29 use the titles "N.D." or "N.M.D." or any other titles, words,  
30 letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that  
31 the individual is a licensed naturopathic physician unless  
32 the individual has been licensed as a naturopathic physician  
33 pursuant to this chapter without first obtaining from the board  
34 a license to practice naturopathic medicine pursuant to the  
35 provisions of this chapter.

1 2. The practice of naturopathic medicine by a naturopathic  
2 physician licensed pursuant to this chapter does not constitute  
3 the practice of medicine and surgery under chapter 148, the  
4 practice of osteopathic medicine and surgery under chapter 148,  
5 or the practice of nursing under chapter 152.

6 3. This chapter and chapter 147 do not prevent qualified  
7 members of other professions including but not limited  
8 to individuals licensed under chapter 148, 150, 150A, or  
9 152 from providing services consistent with the nature of  
10 naturopathic medicine, but these persons shall not use a title  
11 or description denoting that they are licensed naturopathic  
12 physicians.

13 Sec. 10. NEW SECTION. 148F.4 Duties of board.

14 The board shall adopt rules consistent with this chapter,  
15 chapter 147, and as recommended by the naturopathic advisory  
16 council which are necessary for the performance of its duties.

17 Sec. 11. NEW SECTION. 148F.5 Naturopathic advisory council.

18 1. A naturopathic advisory council is established,  
19 consisting of the following members:

20 a. Three members who are naturopathic physicians eligible  
21 for licensure, appointed by the governor.

22 b. One member who is a pharmacist licensed in Iowa,  
23 appointed by the governor.

24 c. One member who is a medical or osteopathic physician  
25 licensed in Iowa, who has expertise in natural or integrative  
26 medicine.

27 2. Members shall not receive per diem or expense payments.

28 3. Members shall serve two-year terms, and shall serve until  
29 their successors have been appointed.

30 4. The council shall select a chairperson from its  
31 membership.

32 Sec. 12. NEW SECTION. 148F.6 Council powers and duties.

33 The naturopathic advisory council shall do all of the  
34 following:

35 1. Advise the board regarding standards for licensed

1 naturopathic physicians.

2 2. Provide for distribution of information regarding  
3 licensed naturopathic physician standards.

4 3. Advise the board on enforcement issues.

5 4. Review applications for licensure and license renewal  
6 and recommend the granting or denial thereof.

7 5. Advise the board on issues related to receiving and  
8 investigating complaints, conducting hearings, and imposing  
9 disciplinary action in relation to complaints against licensed  
10 naturopathic physicians.

11 6. Review naturopathic education and training for and  
12 make specific recommendations to the board regarding the  
13 qualifications to practice naturopathic childbirth attendance.

14 7. Recommend to the board any prescription drugs which  
15 should be included on the exclusionary naturopathic formulary.

16 8. Advise the board regarding approval of continuing  
17 education programs specific to naturopathic practice.

18 Sec. 13. NEW SECTION. 148F.7 **Scope of practice.**

19 A naturopathic physician may do any of the following:

20 1. Order and perform physical and laboratory examinations  
21 consistent with naturopathic education and training for  
22 diagnostic purposes, including but not limited to phlebotomy,  
23 clinical laboratory tests, orificial examinations, and  
24 physiological function tests.

25 2. Order diagnostic imaging studies consistent with  
26 naturopathic training. All diagnostic tests not consistent  
27 with naturopathic medical education and training must be  
28 referred for performance and interpretation to an appropriately  
29 licensed health care professional.

30 3. Dispense, administer, order, and prescribe, provide, or  
31 perform the following, as applicable:

32 a. Food, extracts of food, nutraceuticals, vitamins, amino  
33 acids, minerals, enzymes, botanicals and their extracts,  
34 botanical medicines, homeopathic medicines, and all dietary  
35 supplements and nonprescription drugs as defined by the federal

1 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.

2 *b.* Prescription or legend drugs and hormonal replacement.

3 *c.* Hot or cold hydrotherapy, naturopathic physical medicine,  
4 and therapeutic exercise.

5 *d.* Devices, including but not limited to therapeutic  
6 devices, barrier contraception, and durable medical equipment.

7 *e.* Health education and health counseling.

8 *f.* Repair and care incidental to superficial lacerations and  
9 abrasions.

10 *g.* Removal of foreign bodies located in the superficial  
11 tissues.

12 *h.* Musculoskeletal manipulation consistent with  
13 naturopathic education and training.

14 4. Utilize routes of administration that include oral,  
15 nasal, auricular, ocular, rectal, vaginal, transdermal,  
16 intradermal, subcutaneous, intravenous, and intramuscular  
17 consistent with the education and training of a naturopathic  
18 physician.

19 5. Perform all therapies as trained and educated, and  
20 approved by the naturopathic advisory council.

21 Sec. 14. NEW SECTION. 148F.8 Prohibitions.

22 A naturopathic physician licensed under this chapter shall  
23 not do any of the following:

24 1. Perform or induce abortions.

25 2. Perform surgical procedures except those minor office  
26 procedures authorized by this chapter.

27 3. Practice or claim to practice as a medical or osteopathic  
28 physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, psychologist,  
29 advanced practice registered nurse, physician assistant,  
30 chiropractor, physical therapist, acupuncturist, or any other  
31 health care provider not authorized in this chapter unless  
32 licensed by the state of Iowa as such.

33 4. Use general or spinal anesthetics.

34 5. Administer ionizing radioactive substances for  
35 therapeutic purposes.

1 6. Administer or prescribe chemotherapeutic medications for  
2 the purpose of cancer treatment.

3 7. Perform surgical procedures of the eye, ear, nerves,  
4 veins, or arteries extending beyond superficial tissue.

5 **Sec. 15. NEW SECTION. 148F.9 Exemptions.**

6 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit or  
7 restrict:

8 1. The practice of a profession by individuals who are  
9 licensed, certified, or registered under other laws of this  
10 state who are performing services within their authorized scope  
11 of practice.

12 2. The practice of naturopathic medicine by an individual  
13 employed by the government of the United States while the  
14 individual is engaged in the performance of duties prescribed  
15 by the laws and regulations of the United States.

16 3. The practice of naturopathic medicine by students  
17 enrolled in an approved naturopathic medical program. The  
18 performance of services shall be pursuant to a course of  
19 instruction or assignments from an instructor and under the  
20 supervision of the instructor. The instructor shall be a  
21 naturopathic physician licensed pursuant to this chapter or a  
22 duly licensed professional in the instructed field.

23 4. Persons from treating themselves and family members  
24 based on religious or health beliefs.

25 5. Persons who sell vitamins and herbs from providing  
26 information about their products.

27 6. Persons or practitioners from advising in the use of  
28 a therapy, including but not limited to: herbal medicine,  
29 homeopathy, nutrition, or other nondrug or nonsurgical therapy  
30 that is within the scope of practice of naturopathic physicians  
31 as outlined in this chapter as long as such therapy is lawful,  
32 or, if a licensed health care provider, within the scope of  
33 practice of the profession; and provided that such person is  
34 not using a title protected pursuant to this chapter or holding  
35 themselves out to be a naturopathic physician.

1 7. The practice of naturopathic medicine by persons who  
2 are licensed to practice in any other state as practicing  
3 naturopathic physicians, who enter this state to consult with  
4 a licensed naturopathic physician in this state; provided,  
5 however, that the consultation is to be limited to examination,  
6 recommendation, or testimony in litigation.

7 EXPLANATION

8 This bill requires the licensing of naturopathic physicians.  
9 The bill provides that the practice of naturopathic medicine  
10 means the provision of naturopathic services defined as a  
11 system of primary health care for the prevention, diagnosis,  
12 and treatment of human health conditions, injury, and disease,  
13 and the promotion or restoration of health. Naturopathic  
14 medicine includes the use of physiological, psychological,  
15 or mechanical methods, and the use of natural medicines,  
16 prescription or legend drugs, foods, herbs, or other natural  
17 remedies. The bill specifies qualifications for licensure and  
18 the scope of practice for a naturopathic physician, and details  
19 functions that a naturopathic physician may not perform.

20 The practice of naturopathic medicine is regulated by the  
21 board of medicine, with the advice of a naturopathic advisory  
22 council. The council consists of five members, three of  
23 whom are naturopathic physicians, one medical or osteopathic  
24 physician, and a pharmacist. The council does not receive per  
25 diem or expenses.

26 The bill provides that qualified members of other  
27 professions, including physicians and nurses, are not prevented  
28 from providing services consistent with naturopathic medicine,  
29 but these persons shall not use a title or description denoting  
30 that they are naturopathic physicians. The bill sets out these  
31 titles.